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SECURITY COUNCIL
Fiftieth year

Letter dated 20 November 1995 from the Permanent Representative of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit the letter dated 20 November 1995 from H.E. Mr. Stevo Crvenkovski, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Macedonia addressed to you (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 8 and 28, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Denko MALESKI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the Republic
of Macedonia to the United Nations

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ANNEX

Letter dated 20 November 1995 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia addressed to the Secretary-General

It is with full attention that we follow the peace negotiations and efforts of the international community aimed at finding a peaceful settlement to the crises in the Balkans. I am convinced that while a generally acceptable solution is looked for, the complete situation in the region must be taken into account. However, I consider it necessary to clarify our views about certain issues.

Following the dissolution of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, all independent States became its equal successor States. None of these States can claim to be the sole successor State. That is provided for in United Nations Security Council resolution 777 (1992), which states specifically that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) cannot take up automatically the place of the dissolved federation in the United Nations framework. If any digression from resolution 777 (1992) were made and if only one State were given the right to call upon the continuity of the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, new and large problems in the region would occur.

What concerns the Republic of Macedonia most is that following the lifting of the United Nations sanctions, the common foreign currency reserves could remain in possession of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) if it were considered a sole successor to the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. That would be completely unacceptable for the Republic of Macedonia. Furthermore, we are also gravely concerned with the possibility that the common property abroad could remain in possession of only one of the successor States.

The finalization of the peace talks among the parties to the peace negotiations must not overshadow this issue of major significance - the issue of common assets. This issue should be kept open pending the general settlement of all aspects of the succession to the former Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

I believe, Mr. Secretary-General, that the United Nations will continue to pursue a policy in harmony with the already adopted United Nations Security Council resolutions pertaining to the situation in the region and that it will not make the way for developments that may generate additional serious problems in the region.

(Signed) Stevo CRVENKOVSKI
Minister ,